

The Wheels of RSO&I

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Mobility is one of the vital success factors in a military operation. And soldiers of S-4 Transportation, U.S. Army Troop Command-Korea are the 'wheels' of this year's Reception, Staging, Onward-movement and Integration exercise.

S4's mission in this exercise is to provide transportation for deployment and redeployment of RSO&I personnel and to fulfill any transportation requirement that arises during the exercise. For example, they pick up mail for exercise participants from the Dong Taegu Train Station daily. They are also supporting the exercise in other places, other than the small detachment deployed here at Camp Walker.

"We have people coming to Osan or K-2 from the States to participate in this exercise. Also some people are coming into Taegu Train Station from various parts of Korea. Our job is to get them to the places they need to go," said Sgt. Yi Chang K, Camp Walker noncommissioned officer in charge, S-4 Transportation, U.S. Army Troop Command-Korea.

The S-4 detachment crew at Camp Walker consists of one U.S. Army NCOIC, one KATUSA desk NCO and nine KATUSA drivers. They handle five vans, three trucks and two sedans that are available 24 hours every day throughout the exercise.

"We have deployed here a couple of weeks before the exercise to prepare. Our drivers are experienced and familiar with the local geography," said Sgt. Yi.

Any personnel who needs transportation assistance must fill out an E58-1 form which can be obtained in the Headquarters and Headquarters Company administrative tent located near Butler building #1, 24 hours prior to the mission.

"When we received the request form for assistance, Sgt. Yi and I consider the request and select the appropriate vehicle and driver for that mission," said Sgt Na, Ji-Wan, desk NCO of S-4 detachment.

"But there are some difficulties in our job, we are short-handed and on a 24 hour shift. Some people approach us without prior notice and demand transportation but we can't help them on the spot with our limited resources," said Sgt. Na.

Difficult or not, the soldiers of S-4 Trans continue to "drive-on" with their designated missions.